

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 9, 2017**

**Meeting minutes are transcribed in a summarized format. For full discussion and further detail of the meeting you can view the streamline video at the following link:*

<http://townhallstreams.com/locations/rock-hall-md>.

*Meeting minutes will also be available for viewing at the Town Office**

The Mayor convened the Regular Mayor and Council Meeting on the above date at 7:30 p.m. Councilmember Kuechler, Councilmember Nesspor, Councilmember Jester, and Councilmember Price were present. The Town Manager, and Officer Wode were also in attendance.

Councilmember Price gave the invocation. A moment of silence was given for our service men & women. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the Public Hearing minutes of February 9, 2017. Councilmember Jester seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Kuechler made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of February 9, 2017. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilmember Price made a motion to approve the Closed Session Meeting minutes of February 9, 2017. Councilmember Kuechler seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

GUEST SPEAKERS/INVITED GUESTS:

Mrs. Gail Owings was in attendance to give an overview of the Stories of the Chesapeake and the Maryland Heritage Area Grants.

Meg Parry gave an update on a walkway grant the Town just applied for in the amount of \$50,000.00 with a match amount of \$50,000.00 from other grants/resources or the Town. The Mayor Council have been asked to approve a letter of commitment for the match funds of \$50,000.00 if the Town does not find any other sources of contribution. Councilmember Nesspor made a motion to submit a letter of potential back up funding should the Trails grant fall through. Councilmember Price seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Mrs. Gail Owings also gave an overview of a new idea for the “Tastiest Catch”.

ROCK HALL COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARD:

The Mayor and Council presented the Kent County Bus Contractors, LLC with the Rock Hall Community Spirit Award.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

NONE

CORRESPONDENCE:

NONE

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Town Manager read the Financial Report into record as follows:

General Fund Investment Account:	\$236,785.85
Museum Board :	\$ 2,664.20
Utilities Fund Investment Account:	<u>\$116,191.20</u>
Total Available Funds:	\$355,641.25
Property Taxes Outstanding:	\$ 97,370.04
Utilities Fund Outstanding:	\$ 17,849.45
Services Rendered Outstanding:	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Outstanding:	\$ 115,219.49

POLICE REPORT:

Officer Wode read the police report into record. The Town Manager gave thanks and appreciation for the job Officer Wode performs while on duty. The Parks & Recreation Board asked to have an officer make an appearance at the Civic Center periodically.

STREETS/SANITATION:

The Town Manager gave an update on the new parking lot at Ferry Park. Brambles has been through Town to give an estimate of the cost to get all the areas throughout Town paved and fixed.

SEWER/WATER:

Councilmember Nesspor gave an update on the sewer and water departments.

PARKS/RECREATION:

Councilmember Jester reminded everyone of the St. Patrick's Day dance on March 18, 2017 and the Easter Egg Hunt on April 15, 2017. The Parks & Recreation Board has asked to have all the ball fields prepped and ready for the upcoming season. The Parks & Recreation Board has discussed placing a dog park somewhere in the area of the lagoon. The Parks & Recreation Board has asked to have a speed bump placed at the Civic Center. Councilmember Nesspor asked about repairing a line at the Civic Center. The Town Manager has asked Danny Usilton to take a look into it and see how much it will cost to have that fixed.

PLANNING/ZONING:

Councilmember Price gave an update on the Planning & Zoning Board and the Board of Appeals.

MUSEUM BOARD:

Councilmember Kuechler gave an update on the Museum Board.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mrs. Jan Plotczyk gave a report on the statistics of the Town Meeting Live Streaming and Video on Demand. There was a discussion among the Mayor and Council in regards to Communications Boards report and suggestions. The Mayor and Council asked the Town Manager to have a link of the Live Streaming address added to the advertisement of the Town's meetings schedule that is placed in the Tidewater.

ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

The Town Manager gave an overview and read a summary of Ordinance No. 2017-02 ZTA (Special Events) into record as an introduction.

The Town Manager gave an overview and read a summary of Ordinance No. 2017-03 Chapter 24 (Licensing) into record as an introduction.

The Town Manager gave an overview and read a summary of Ordinance No. 2017-04 Chapter 108 (Subdivision of Lands) into record as an introduction.

OLD BUSINESS:

NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

NONE

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor gave an update on the University of Maryland's student visit.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:

The Town Manager gave an update on the condition of a building that has become a safety hazard to the Town. The Town Manager asked the Mayor and Council for approval to move forward with having the Town demolish the building and cleaning up the debris at a cost of \$25,000 - \$30,000 dollars. The only problem with the Town proceeding with this project is that the Town probably won't receive any reimbursement for the project until the property has been sold. If the Mayor and Council agree to move forward with this project the Town will have to send a letter to the property owner giving them thirty (30) days to rectify the problem on their own accord. If at the end of the thirty (30) days they have done nothing to correct the issue the Town will then place a lien on the property for the cost of the demolition and cleanup allowing the Town to be reimbursed for the project once the property has been sold. The Mayor and Council agreed to have the Town Manager move forward with the project as presented.

GOOD OF THE TOWN:

Councilmember Price made an announcement that he will not be running for reelection during the next election that will be coming up in May. The Mayor and Council conveyed their appreciation and well wishes for Councilmember Price.


Councilmember Price made a motion to adjourn into a Closed Session - Pursuant to Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Maryland Annotated Code for the purposes of discussing the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction and a personnel matter affecting one or more specific individuals. Councilmember Nesspor seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The regular Mayor and Council Meeting was recessed at 8:46 p.m. to move into a closed session.

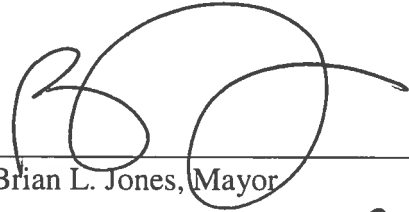
The Mayor reconvened the Mayor and Council meeting at approximately 9:12 p.m. The Mayor and Council discussed personnel and a replacement employee for one who is retiring. The Council took no action during the Closed Session. Councilmember Price made a motion to hire Greg Smith at the salary he requested. Councilmember Jester seconded. All in favor, motion carried. The Town has hired a new employee, Mr. Greg Smith.

With there being no further business, Councilmember Price made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m.; Councilmember Jester seconded. All in favor; motion carried.

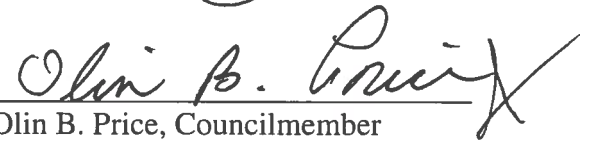
Respectfully submitted,



Lacey T. Cox
Assistant Clerk-Treasurer



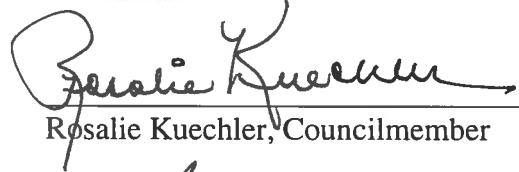
Brian L. Jones, Mayor



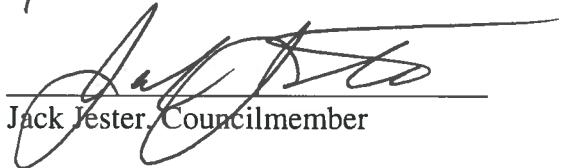
Olin B. Price, Councilmember



Brian Nesspor, Councilmember



Rosalie Kuechler, Councilmember



Jack Jester, Councilmember